

Application No. 10/507,404
Amendment dated: March 8, 2006
Reply to Office Action of December 20, 2005

Docket No.: 209546-84417

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A connector assembly for attaching a hardware component and a trim panel to a vehicular structure, said connector assembly comprising:

a shank including a head end and an anchor end for securing the hardware component to the vehicular structure; and

a head operatively coupled to said shank such that said head is adapted to non-frangibly detach from said shank, and wherein said head includes[[ing]] a trim retaining end for securing the trim panel, a shank engaging end, and a break neck therebetween, and further wherein said trim retaining end is adapted to break[[s]] from said head at said break neck when a load is applied to said head ~~allowing removal of the trim panel from the hardware component of the vehicular structure.~~

2. (Original) A connector assembly as set forth in Claim 1, wherein said shank further includes a chamber extending between said head end and said anchor end.

3. (Original) A connector assembly as set forth in Claim 2, wherein said chamber is threaded.

4. (Original) A connector assembly as set forth in Claim 3, further including a screw threadedly inserted in said chamber.

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5. (Original) A connector assembly as set forth in Claim 4, wherein said shank includes a bulbous portion that expands radially outward when said screw is received in said chamber.

6. (Original) A connector assembly as set forth in Claim 1, wherein said head further includes an upper disc and a lower disc, and wherein said trim panel includes at least one boss for receiving said upper disc while said lower disc abuts a lower surface of said boss.

7. (Original) A connector assembly as set forth in Claim 1, wherein said head is operatively coupled to said shank by a plurality of prongs received within a corresponding number of recesses formed in said head end of said shank.

8. (Original) A connector assembly as set forth in Claim 7, wherein said head end of said shank includes a shoulder, said recesses being formed in the shoulder of said head end of said shank.